151. Desirability of lending to the people at a nominal interest the money now hoarded up in the temples of the State.

Mr. Kutti Moosa Pariad (Member, Nominated) said that the war in Europe had greatly affected the material resources of the people of the State. The products of the cocoanut tree did not sell largely. Combined with it, the season was not favourable to agriculture. The poverty to which the ryots were reduced was indescribable. The landed property was being largely sold at low prices. There were no Government banks in the State to lend money to the agriculturists in times of need. It was therefore desirable to let out to the people at low rates of interests, on the security of landed property or otherwise, the money now hoarded in some of the Sirkar temples. That would only add to the wealth of the Devaswoms by way of interest and would be a measure of infinite relief to the poor ryots in times of need. He prayed tha the question might engage the early attention of the Government.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

152. Want of dwelling sites for the Pulayas.

Mr. Aiyan Kali (Member, Nominated) said that, ever since the Government were pleased to nominate one from the Pulayas to represent their grievances at the Assembly, want of dwelling sites was an invariable prayer at every session. The kindness the Government had shown in ordering the registry of 500 acres of puduval land in the Vilappil pakuthi in the names of Pulayas had not yet borne practical results. Influential people had occupied portions of the area and the Pulayas were not able to compete with them. He understood that, since the Government considered that the Pulayas would not be able to pay the thadivila, orders were issued to the Forest Department to remove the tree growth before handing over the site to the Pulayas. He regretted that the action taken by the department in the matter was tardy. It would take years before the department removed the tree growth from the area and the Member requested that the serious attention of the Government should be directed to the matter.

He then complained that, since the application of Pulayas for the registry of about 200 acres of puduval lands in the Pallipuram and Thonnakkal pakuthies and over 300 acres in the Kadinamkulam beach, the former block was registered in the names of other persons and the latter was ordered to be auctioned, to the great sorrow of the Pulayas. Similarly, a few acres of puduval lands in the Tiruvalla and Chengannur taluks were ordered to be registered in the names of Pulayas, as the result of the representation of the Pulaya representative from Central Travancore at the tenth session of the Assembly. But the area was now proposed to be included in reserves. He said that, in spite of the good intentions of the Government, the community was not able to reap the benefits. He therefore suggested that a special officer might be deputed to look to the registry of puduval areas wherever available in the names of Pulayas, under special conditions.

Lastly, the Member referred to the hardship they were put to by not being admitted to markets and other places of public resort and invited the attention of the Government to the speedy removal of those grievances.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

The Assembly adjourned at 5-55 P. M.

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